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Walla Walla District

News Release

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McNary, Lower Granite navigation locks return to service; schedule corrected for Lower Monumental lock outage

WALLA WALLA, Wash. – The navigation locks at McNary and Lower Granite dams reopened for commercial and recreational river traffic today, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers navigation officials announced.

Five dams between The Dalles, Ore., and Lewiston, Idaho, on the Columbia and Snake rivers, closed their navigation locks starting Nov. 5 to make some repairs and conduct maintenance.

Lower Granite navigation lock's maintenance crew completed the electrical work they had scheduled, reopening the lock to service earlier than anticipated.

Work at McNary navigation lock was cancelled yesterday because the tainter valve bulkheads needed to perform the work require inspections to help ensure worker safety and can not be used at this time. The permanent repairs to the navigation lock fill valve will be completed during the March 2008 annual maintenance outage.

Little Goose, Lower Monumental and The Dalles navigation locks remain out of service as scheduled.

Since the initial announcement on Oct. 24, Lower Monumental lock outage schedule has been corrected from partial- to full-day outages.

Current outage schedule follows:

Navigation Lock	Closure	Activity During Closure
The Dalles Dam <i>Columbia River Mile 191</i>	7 a.m. Nov. 5 through 7 p.m. Nov. 12	downstream miter gate inspection, instrumentation installation and interim repairs
Lower Monumental Dam <i>Snake River Mile 41.6</i>	7 a.m. Nov. 5 through 6 p.m. Nov. 9	conduct general maintenance
Little Goose Dam <i>Snake River Mile 70.3</i>	6:30 a.m. Nov. 5 through 5 p.m. Nov. 12	install and test replacement parts for upstream lock gate hoisting equipment

The Corps coordinates navigation lock closures with inland shippers and cruise lines to achieve minimal impact to the various industries that use the locks.

Public Notices and other navigation lock information for McNary, Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental, Little Goose and Lower Granite dams are available on the Walla Walla District Web site at www.nww.usace.army.mil/html/offices/op/t/navdata/default.html . Information for Portland District's Bonneville, The Dalles and John Day locks and dams can be found online at www.nwp.usace.army.mil/op/s/nl/home.asp .

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